

Report on Master Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague

Student:	Gustavo De Luna Gallardo
Advisor:	PhDr. Wadim Strielkowski, Ph.D.
Title of the thesis:	Analyzing the integration of migrants in the Eurozone: lessons for the EU integration

OVERALL ASSESSMENT (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):

Gustavo De Luna Gallardo's Master Thesis deals with the topic of migrants' integration in the European Union. The author employs non-trivial empirical and econometric methods and tools in order to elaborate on the issues of Migrant Integration Policy Index (MIPEX) and Immigration Surplus.

Overall, the thesis has 119 pages and is divided into 5 Chapters complemented by 23 Appendices. It contains 6 Tables, 4 Figures and is supplemented with a list of Abbreviations and Acronyms, and therefore represents a well-executed work that somewhat surpasses the basic standards for the Master Thesis at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague.

The Thesis contains a proper literature review and description of the data, methods and discussion of relevant results. The thesis is well-written and structured and bears all prerequisites and requirements one can expect from a rigorous academic paper. The work is original and shows the author's understanding of the topic. Furthermore, it demonstrates his ability to work with the data and formulate and test non-trivial assumptions and hypotheses.

Integration of migrants is a specific issue of EU migration policy (that is virtually non-existent) and I am happy to note that this work attempts to shift the debate about the usefulness of migrants' integration to another level. It is crucial to be able to understand how migrants are integrated into the society in various EU countries (using the MIPEX) and how useful the migration is for the EU labour markets (using the Immigration surplus, a concept developed by George Borjas and tackled by myself in several research papers and publications).

I cannot but admire the empirical part of the thesis, in which the author works with selecting the proper variables for the model (amongst all, using such sophisticated techniques as the Bayesian model averaging), and conducts the model testing and calibration. The results are non-trivial and they are properly discussed (including some possible policy implications) and referenced.

Overall, I have to say that it was a pleasure for me to supervise Gustavo and we agreed to use parts of his thesis for our joint research papers that are currently before submission or have been already submitted to a number of peer-reviewed academic journals indexed in Scopus and WoS.

Gustavo's work demonstrates that he is capable of independent research work conducted at high standards and yielding remarkable results.

In the case of successful defense, I recommend the student to be given "**výborně**" (**excellent, 1**).

SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for details, see below):

CATEGORY	POINTS
<i>Literature</i> (max. 20 points)	19
<i>Methods</i> (max. 30 points)	28
<i>Contribution</i> (max. 30 points)	28
<i>Manuscript Form</i> (max. 20 points)	17
TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)	92
GRADE (1 – 2 – 3 – 4)	1

NAME OF THE REFEREE: PhDr. Wadim Strielkowski, Ph.D.

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